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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

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MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
DATE AND TIME:	February 20, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room A , second floor of the Cannon Building
APPROVED:	March 20, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Bielicki, Jr., Professional Member, Chairman
Franco R. Bellafante, Professional Member, Vice-Chair
Thomas Plummer, Professional Member
Rhonda West, Public Member

DIVISION STAFF

Kevin Maloney, Deputy Attorney General
Amanda McAtee, Administrative Assistant II
David Mangler, Division Director

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charles Adams, Jr., Professional Member
Kenneth Monroe, Public Member

PUBLIC

None

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bielicki called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bellafante made a motion, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to approve the January 16, 2014 minutes as amended. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Review of Legislative Bill for Possible amendment to Title 25, Chapter 3 regarding survey requirements for conveyances, Retired Status, and Inactive Status

Mr. Maloney stated that he had sent the Bill over to Deputy Director Gayle MacAfee for the Division of Professional Regulation (DPR) to review. Mr. Mangler stated that the Bills DPR received would be added to the spring 2014 Legislative session agenda.

Complaint Status

Open Complaints

05-01-13

05-02-13

05-03-13

Mr. Bielicki stated that the Board had three open complaints.

Election of Officers

Mr. Maloney requested that the Board call for nominations for the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Mr. Bellafante made a motion, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to nominate Mr. Bielicki for the office of Chair. Mr. Bielicki accepted the nomination. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Plummer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bielicki, to nominate Mr. Bellafante for the office of Vice Chair. Mr. Bellafante accepted the nomination. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Bellafante made a motion, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to nominate Ms. West for the office of Secretary. Ms. West accepted the nomination. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Plummer stated that his first term expired in March of 2014 and he would not be applying for reappointment due to other commitments. Mr. Plummer stated that it had been an honor to serve on the Board and that he would hold over on his term on the Board until another professional replacement was appointed.

Ms. McAtee stated that the Board was currently seeking replacements for two public members. Mr. Rosenthal had recently passed away and Mr. Monroe had recently resigned from the Board due to personal matters.

NEW BUSINESS

Courses for Continuing Education Approval

Mr. Plummer stated that the forms for continuing education approval would have to be adjusted to include information for online courses. Ms. McAtee stated that the forms would be amended once the Rules and Regulations change was published as final.

Thomas Whitehead – 8 PDHs, 1 PDH ethics designation

Field and Office Work for Boundary Surveyors

Mr. Plummer reviewed the PDH application from Thomas Whitehead for the approval of Field and Office Work for Boundary Surveyors. After discussion, Mr. Plummer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bielicki, to approve Field and Office Work for Boundary Surveyors for a total of 8 PDHs with 1 PDH ethics designation as requested. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Review of Application for Licensure by Examination – None

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity – None

Review of Application for Surveyor Intern – None

Ratification of Issuance of Land Surveying Certificate of Authorization

Dewberry Consultants LLC

Rauch Inc.

Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc.

Solutions Integrated Planning Engineering & Management, LLC

Retained Logic Group, Inc.

Mr. Plummer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bellafante, to ratify the application of certificate of authorization for Dewberry Consultants LLC., Rauch Inc., Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc., Solutions Integrated Planning Engineering & Management, LLC., and Retained Logic Group, Inc.. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Review of Land Surveying Certificate of Authorization – None

Review of Audits – None

Complaint Assignments and Status – None

Wall Certificates – None

Correspondence – None

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

NCEES Annual Meeting, August 20 – 23, 2014 in Seattle, Washington

Ms. McAtee stated that NCEES would be holding their annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. NCEES had stated that they would fund any new Board members to attend the meeting at no cost to the Board.

Mr. Bielicki questioned whether an intern in the program would need continuing education hours.

Ms. McAtee stated that the Rules and Regulations did not dictate a continuing education requirement. From an operation standpoint there was not a mechanism to audit an intern since their license was a four year non-renewable license. Mr. Bielicki stated that he did not see a need for requiring CE but just wanted to bring up a question that had been asked. Mr. Bellafante and Mr. Plummer agreed that CE shouldn't be required for interns.

Mr. Bellafante stated that a growing number of states required a college degree to obtain surveying licensure. He believed that in the future Delaware should look at requiring a four year degree. His concern was that other states that required a four year degree may not reciprocate with Delaware because they did not require a four year degree. Mr. Bielicki did not believe that a four year degree should be required because Delaware did not offer a four year land surveying program and felt that field experience was very beneficial to new surveyors and that a four year degree was not any better than someone that went through a program that included education and experience. Mr. Plummer stated that he had seen studies where surveyors had performed better on exams that had a four year degree and field experience versus field experience alone. Mr. Bellafante did not disagree, however he believed that the world we lived in was going to eventually require a four year degree to gain employment and for the profession to prevail it would eventually be a requirement. Ms. McAtee stated that as long as the Board agreed with their statute that a combination of experience and education and completion of the internship program produced a qualified surveyor and the public was protected then it really would be up to the student that was new to the field to decide whether they wanted to obtain a four year degree or choose a program that combined education and experience.

Mr. Plummer stated that national surveyor's week was March 16 – 24, 2014 and DAS was organizing some outreach throughout the state.

Mr. Plummer questioned if PDHs should be awarded to active duty military members that were deployed. He knew of a deployed surveyor that returned a few months before license renewal and struggled to complete the credits. He suggested that the Board should grant maybe 2 PDHs for each month someone was deployed. Mr. Maloney stated that the Board could revise their Rules and Regulations to accommodate the suggestion. Ms. McAtee stated that she would put the topic on the March 20, 2014 agenda for Board discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is March 20, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in Conference Room A, second floor of the Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Bellafante made a motion, seconded by Mr. Plummer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A McAtee', written in a cursive style.

Amanda McAtee
Administrative Specialist II

The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Board members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall for presentations.